

**In the Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A transitional modular Italian charm link comprising:

- a) a base member;
- b) a slidable charm face removably attached to said base member;
- c) means for applying a bias to said charm face to maintain it in a closed position substantially covering said base member;
- d) a linkage means for pivotally securing said charm link to another charm link of an equal width; and
- e) a transitional linkage means for pivotally securing said charm link to another charm link of a lesser width.

2. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim 1, wherein said base member comprises:

- a) a bottom plate;
- b) two opposing sidewalls extending peripherally from ~~the~~ edges of said ~~sidewalls~~ bottom plate;
- c) a rigid transverse post member forming a retaining post laterally communicating between a medial portion of ~~the~~ an end of one of said two opposing sidewall ~~sidewalls~~ and a medial portion of ~~the~~ an end of another of said two opposing sidewall ~~sidewalls~~ and

disposed so as to define a locking recess between said post, said bottom plate and said sidewalls; and

d) an opposing rigid transverse post member forming a linkage post laterally communicating between a medial portion of the end of ~~said one of~~ said two opposing sidewall sidewalls and a medial portion of the end of ~~said another of~~ said two opposing sidewall sidewalls and disposed so as to define a linkage recess between said post, said bottom plate and said sidewalls.

3. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim  $\pm$  2, wherein said slidable charm face comprises:

a) a slidable plate positioned between ~~the~~ a top portion of said two opposing sidewalls on a plane substantially level therewith ~~and, said slidable plate having~~ a first end and a second end;

b) an arcuate linkage hook extending from said first end of said slidable plate passing beyond and over ~~said~~ a retaining post and curving downward and back towards ~~the~~ a center of said slidable plate so as to pass through ~~said~~ a locking recess back into said base member; and

c) an arcuate retaining hook extending from said second end of said slidable plate and disposed ~~within the confines of between~~ said two opposing sidewalls, said retaining post and said linkage post and curving downward and back towards the center of said slidable plate leaving a gap between ~~the~~ an end of said linkage hook and ~~the~~ an end thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim  $\pm$  3, wherein said bias means is a tension spring within said base member disposed between said slidable plate and the a bottom portion of said retaining hook to provide a bias against said retaining post and said retaining hook to urge said retaining hook thereaway to maintain said charm face in a closed position substantially covering said base member until a greater counter-bias is applied thereto thus sliding said charm face off center and extending said linkage hook away from said base member.

5. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim  $\pm$  4, wherein said linkage means for pivotally securing said charm link to an adjacent charm link of an equal width is accomplished by offsetting said charm face to extend said linkage hook and exposing the an end thereof and inserting it over the linkage post and through the linkage recess of the adjacent charm link and releasing the charm face thereby allowing said tension spring to retract it back into the closed position with the linkage hook subsequently returning through said locking recess.

6. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim  $\pm$  3, wherein said linkage hook is transitional and narrower in width relative than said charm face and at an appropriate width for insertion into the linkage recess of a smaller charm link to provide said linkage means for pivotally securing said charm link to

an adjacent charm link of a lesser size.

7. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim 1, wherein said linkage recess and said linkage post are transitional and appropriately sized to receive the linkage hook of a smaller charm link while prohibiting the linear movement thereof along said linkage post thereby providing said linkage means for pivotally securing said charm link to an adjacent charm link of a lesser sized.

8. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim 1, wherein said charm link ~~is a transitional hook charm link having~~ further includes a transitional hook and a standard post.

9. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim 1, wherein said charm link ~~is a transitional post charm link having~~ further includes a transitional post and a standard hook.

10. (Currently Amended) A transitional modular Italian charm link as recited in claim 1, wherein said charm link ~~is a transitional post and link charm link having~~ further includes a transitional post and a transitional hook.